

## CHAPTER 1. OVERVIEW

Military police support Marine air-ground task force (MAGTF) operations during peace, conflict, and war. Employed as a MAGTF force multiplier, military police operate across the force continuum to support training in nonlethal weapons use, antiterrorism/force protection (AT/FP) operations, noncombatant evacuation operations, civil unrest, and other security operations.

During joint and multinational operations, military police perform specialized functions in areas of accident investigations, criminal investigations, employment of military working dogs, physical security, and corrections. In addition, military police enhance interoperability through liaison and coordination with joint, combined, host nation (HN) and nongovernmental organizations. To maximize the limited available military police (MP) assets, commanders must prioritize support requirements.

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### Mission and Support Capabilities

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The MP mission and capabilities include support for AT/FP operations, maneuver and mobility support operations, area security, law and order, and internment operations. Excluding the manpower intensive temporary internment operations, military police can normally conduct these missions simultaneously.

### Antiterrorism/Force Protection Operations Support

The inherent MP capabilities contribute to improving a unit's AT/FP posture. With the ever-changing enemy and environmental situation, military police advise the commander of the probable impact a course of action has in regards to AT/FP. Military police conduct vulnerability assessments to identify command areas that are vulnerable to terrorist attack. These assessments and the criminal and tactical information gathered by the military police, criminal investigation division (CID), and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) assist in the development of a MAGTF AT/FP plan that is dedicated to safeguarding property and personnel. Military police also function as a training cadre to provide necessary and required

AT/FP training. Support for AT/FP operations is discussed further in chapter 2.

### Maneuver and Mobility Support Operations

At tactical levels, effective use of the road network is a key component of the movement function. Military units and HN civilians will compete for space along limited and congested roadways. Stragglers and refugees may further exacerbate this roadway congestion. To ensure maximum use of sparse road networks, military police perform maneuver and mobility support operations as specified by the commander and movement control elements. Military police assist in the identification of primary and alternate routes, monitor route conditions, and keep routes clear for vital military movements. Maneuver and mobility support operations are discussed further in chapter 3.

Military police support maneuver, mobility, and survivability by expediting forward, lateral, and rear movement of combat, combat support, and combat service support resources and by conducting the following security missions.

#### ***Route Reconnaissance and Surveillance***

When conducting route reconnaissance and surveillance missions, military police continually monitor the condition of main supply routes (MSR) by identifying restrictions on terrain, effects of weather on routes, damage to routes, nuclear, biological, and chemical (NBC) contamination, and the presence of the enemy. Military police also identify alternate MSRs. In addition, police report observations, maintain surveillance, and develop the enemy situation. Mobile MP teams also gather information on friendly and enemy activity.

#### ***MSR Regulation and Enforcement***

Military police enforce the MAGTF commander's MSR regulations and traffic circulation plans to keep MSRs free for priority military movement. To expedite traffic on MSRs, military police use patrolling, traffic control points (TCPs), roadblocks, checkpoints, holding areas, defiles at critical points, and temporary route signs. Effective and efficient employment of traffic control measures move military traffic, stragglers, and refugees through or around potential congestion points.

### **Area Damage Control**

The MP units support area damage control before, during, and after hostile actions or natural and manmade disasters. While conducting route reconnaissance and surveillance and MSR regulation and enforcement missions, military police identify areas that are damaged. Military police also identify areas contaminated by NBC munitions and report this information to the command to affect planning and to facilitate operations.

### **Information Collecting, Reporting, and Dissemination**

During the conduct of maneuver and mobility support operations, military police continuously collect and provide information to commanders. While patrolling, military police gather information about the terrain, weather, and activities in the area of operations (AO). They also gather vital operational planning information by routinely talking to military personnel, MSR users, local police, and the populace. A valuable source of information, military police must pass and receive information in a timely manner. During operations, the information flow is continuous between the military police and the intelligence community. Military police gather information based on the commander's priority intelligence requirements.

### **Area Security Operations**

Units conduct area security operations to reduce the probability or to minimize the effects of enemy attacks in their AO. Military police conduct area security operations to augment or reinforce these units and to protect critical functions and facilities. These MP area security activities may be performed as specific assignments or conducted concurrently with other warfighting capabilities. Area security operations are discussed further in chapter 4.

While performing area security activities, military police help safeguard against unexpected enemy attacks. They monitor likely enemy avenues of approach and landing zones (LZs) or drop zones (DZs) to give early warning of enemy activity. They also assist in the coverage of named areas of interest. In addition, military police conduct reconnaissance of routes and bridges and provide map overlays of those routes.

Military police perform security functions throughout the AO to reduce criminal activities and the possibility of sabotage at vital support facilities. They assist in the

security of designated critical assets through the use of mounted or dismounted MP patrols, military working dogs (MWDs), and existing technology. Military police are most effective when kept mobile, although they may be tasked to perform static posts such as TCPs, roadblocks, and checkpoints. Their mobility enables them to provide security for lines of communications (LOC) and MSRs. Military police performing area security may be tasked to—

- 1 Secure and protect LOC and routes into the AO.
- 1 Secure designated critical assets (e.g., expeditionary airfields, combat service support areas, and forward arming and refueling points [FARPs]).
- 1 Conduct MSR and area reconnaissance and surveillance.
- 1 Detect enemy forces operating in the AO.
- 1 Disseminate physical security and threat advisories for base and installation defense.

### **Law and Order Operations**

The MP law and order operations are conducted to maintain and extend the commander's discipline and control by providing a lawful and orderly environment in which to operate. During law and order operations, military police establish liaison with HN police and conduct joint patrols with HN or multinational forces to maintain order and conduct security operations, thereby enhancing interoperability. The type of operation determines the requirement for additional MP support. Law and order operations are discussed further in chapter 5.

These operations are often performed in conjunction with maneuver and mobility support and area security operations and include measures necessary to—

- 1 Enforce laws, directives, and punitive regulations.
- 1 Conduct criminal and traffic accident investigations.
- 1 Conduct MP information operations.
- 1 Support customs operations.

### **Law Enforcement**

An evolving criminal threat will have an adverse effect on military operations and will require commanders to take actions that will reduce the negative impacts on forces, resources, and operations. As part of this effort, military police enforce laws and appropriate directives of the commander. To further reduce these negative impacts, military police maintain liaison and coordinate with other Department of Defense (DOD) police organizations, HN military

and civilian authorities, and multinational police organizations. A coordinated law enforcement effort removes the conditions and opportunities that promote crime, thereby maintaining military discipline and preventing diversion of military resources.

### ***Criminal Investigations***

Offenses committed against U.S. Forces and property degrade military discipline, morale, and operational capabilities. These crimes and offenses must be investigated to support the commander's responsibility to protect personnel, supplies, facilities, readiness, and operational capabilities. Depending on the type and seriousness of the offense under investigation, such investigations may be conducted by military police investigators (MPs) or CID and NCIS, working in coordination with other DOD and HN investigative agencies.

### ***Customs Support Operations***

Military police provide the commander a high degree of flexibility through the execution of customs operations. Personnel, equipment, and material entering the customs territory of the United States (CTUS) must meet customs, postal, immigration, agriculture, and other Federal agency requirements. During the redeployment of forces, customs-trained military police, working with joint and U.S. Federal agencies, help ensure compliance with regulations and applicable provisions of international agreements by detecting and investigating violations. Customs support operations are discussed in appendix A.

### ***MP Information Operations***

The MP information operations consist of those measures to collect, analyze, and disseminate information gathered from criminal activities and incidents that disrupt law and order. Military police conduct this function as part of other missions. In an effort to provide the commander with a lawful and orderly environment, military police use this information to redirect mounted and dismounted patrols and MWD teams to high crime and incident areas. Military police also use this information to support the commander's human intelligence (HUMINT) collection plan.

### ***Internment Operations***

Internment refers to the wartime confinement imposed on prisoners of war (EPWs), and when required,

civilian internees (CIs). According to the Geneva Conventions, commanders are responsible for the humane treatment of EPWs and CIs. Military police provide the commander with the ability to collect, process, guard, protect, account for, and transfer EPWs and CIs, as well as U.S. Military prisoners.

Extended internment operations are the responsibility of the U.S. Army, the executive agent for EPWs. Because internment operations are manpower intensive, military police tasked with this mission should be dedicated to performing only this duty. If required, military police are capable of training augmentees to assist them in conducting these operations.

### ***EPW and CI Operations***

The EPW and CI operations take place during offensive, defensive, and retrograde operations. Some aspect of EPW and CI operations occurs at every organizational level. The commander and supporting staff must conduct careful planning to ensure these operations will not have a negative impact on mission accomplishment. Beginning with the collection points in the forward area, military police process and collect EPWs and CIs for transfer to MAGTF temporary holding facilities. Control of EPWs and CIs is discussed further in chapter 6.

### ***U.S. Military Prisoner Operations***

On the battlefield, military police provide for the temporary confinement and evacuation of U.S. Military prisoners. The MP confinement operations parallel, but are separate from, EPW and CI internment and evacuation operations.

### ***Dislocated Civilian and Straggler Control***

As part of internment operations, military police identify and separate dislocated civilians and stragglers from EPWs and CIs. Military police assist, direct, or deny the movement of identified dislocated civilians whose location, direction of movement, or actions may hinder military operations. In concert with joint, allied, and HN forces, military police divert refugees and other dislocated civilians from MSR. Military police also return stragglers to military control or make other disposition, as appropriate. Mobile patrols and TCP and checkpoint teams accomplish these tasks as part of their day-to-day operations.

## Objectives

The MP warfighting capabilities are applicable across the range of military operations and support MAGTF combat, combat support, and combat service support operations. See figure 1-1.

### Combat

Military police conduct combat operations to keep MSRs and LOC open and Military police may be formed into a response force or augment the security force conducting rear area security operations. To allow the MAGTF commander to keep the ground combat element (GCE) concentrated and operating in the main battle area, military police assist in defeating as much of the rear area threat as possible.

### Combat Support

Military police provide combat support to facilitate the movement of GCE forces and supplies to the main battle area by conducting route reconnaissance, MSR regulation, and dislocated civilian and straggler

control and by aiding in the evacuation of EPWs and CIs from the main battle area.

### Combat Service Support

Military police conduct operations to help combat service support elements (CSSEs) provide sustainment to the MAGTF. The MP maneuver and mobility support and area security operation missions are instrumental to the success of the CSSE. In addition, military police provide law enforcement capabilities to assist commanders in maintaining good order and discipline.

### Command and Control

Each MAGTF commander may designate a MAGTF provost marshal under the cognizance of the MAGTF assistant chief of staff, operations staff officer (G-3). The MAGTF provost marshal provides the MAGTF commander with MP employment subject matter expertise and coordinates MP activities to ensure the proper allocation of limited resources. The MAGTF

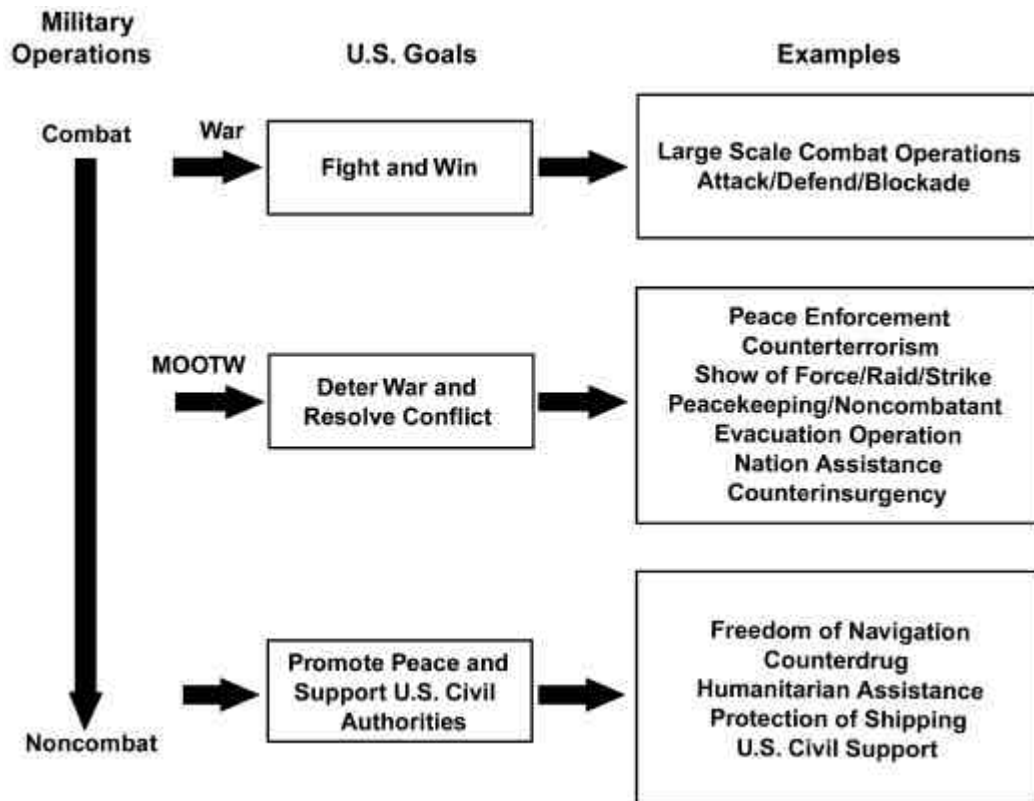


Figure 1-1. Range of Military Operations.

provost marshal is responsible for ensuring that MP taskings are made according to the concept of operations and the priorities established by the MAGTF commander.

## Provost Marshal Responsibilities

The MAGTF Provost Marshal is responsible for—

- 1 Advising the MAGTF commander on matters pertaining to MP operations.
- 1 Supervising and coordinating MP assets and operations within the MAGTF.
- 1 Coordinating law enforcement matters between major subordinate commands (MSCs).
- 1 Coordinating MAGTF law enforcement matters with other Services and or the HN.
- 1 Coordinating and overseeing matters pertaining to EPWs, CIs, and other detained persons.
- 1 Advising the commander on the establishment of AT/FC measures.

## Control Methods

The mission and needs of the MAGTF commander may require the task organization of MP units. Consolidation of MP personnel and resources creates a more robust MP unit capable of executing a wider range of operational missions while allowing greater support flexibility throughout the MAGTF AO. To maintain capabilities, an MP platoon (1 officer and 40 enlisted) is normally the lowest level unit employed.

While MP assets are currently resident within each MAGTF element of the Marine expeditionary force (MEF), a variety of control options may be employed to use these limited assets efficiently.

### ***Decentralized Control and Decentralized Execution***

This traditional method retains MP units in each MSC element. Military police are under the tactical control of the respective MSC MP commander. They are organic to the MAGTF element headquarters, which provides administrative and logistical support. While this method is the most responsive to the individual MSC commander's needs and is useful when the MAGTF elements may have wide geographic separation, the MAGTF MP capability is diluted, and the ability to rapidly mass MP capability may be difficult to coordinate.

### ***Centralized Control and Decentralized Execution***

In this option, MAGTF MP assets are combined to form a provisional MP unit under a single commander. This MP unit provides either general support throughout the MAGTF AO or direct support to subordinate elements. The MAGTF commander retains the ability to shift MP assets as the situation dictates. Normally, MP units do not provide direct support below the GCE, aviation combat element (ACE), or CSSE levels. This method of employment may be best suited in a combat environment where subordinate elements are collocated or share common boundaries. It provides for timely response to a supported element's needs, yet allows the senior MP commander to analyze and direct MP activities. Control difficulties may occur as the AO increases. The MAGTF command element provides administrative and logistical support.

### ***Centralized Control and Centralized Execution***

In this control method, MAGTF MP assets are placed in a provisional MP unit under a single commander (e.g., the MEF provost marshal may be designated as the MEF MP commander); this MP unit provides general support to the MAGTF. While this is the least traditional method of employment, it may be preferred when the MAGTF mission is peacekeeping or humanitarian assistance within a limited area of responsibility. The MAGTF command element provides administrative and logistical support.

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## **Support to a Marine Expeditionary Unit or Special Purpose MAGTF**

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The primary MP support for a Marine expeditionary unit (MEU) or special purpose MAGTF (SPMAGTF) is an MP detachment assigned to the MEU service support group or CSSE of the SPMAGTF. The MP operations are planned and coordinated with the CSSE staff. Refer to Appendix B, Military Police Support Estimate, and Appendix C, Personnel and Logistics.

The MP detachment is task-organized to provide the MAGTF commander capabilities in—

- 1 Nonlethal weapons employment.
- 1 AT/FP planning and assessment.
- 1 Criminal investigations.

- ┆ Accident investigations.
- ┆ Physical security.

## **Nonlethal Weapons Employment Training**

Military police provide the SPMAGTF or MEU commander with tactics and nonlethal weapons employment subject matter experts and train the designated control force on nonlethal capabilities. Nonlethal weapons and controls are discussed further in chapter 7.

## **Antiterrorism/Force Protection**

An MP officer assigned to a MEU or SPMAGTF staff is well qualified to function as the MAGTF AT/FP officer, responsible for coordinating AT/FP training, planning, and execution. The MP detachment or cadre provides the commander with force protection capabilities and suggests ways to detect and defeat the terrorist threat, thus supporting mobility and survivability functions.

## **Liaison**

Military police provide the commander liaison capabilities with HN, civil, and military law enforcement agencies to develop a line of communication that will enhance a unit's survivability in a deployed environment.

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## **Support During Military Operations Other Than War**

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Military police are ideally suited for military operations other than war (MOOTW) missions due to their unique training and experience. From introductory training, through execution of their daily tasks, military police are trained on the force continuum and are adept at using the appropriate level of force when dealing with civilians and noncombatants. See figure 1-2.

In MOOTW, MAGTFs may conduct operations that involve crisis response, humanitarian assistance, peace operations, noncombatant evacuation operations, counterdrug operations, disaster relief, and military support to civilian authorities, as well as domestic support such as law enforcement and combating terrorism. In these operations, military police provide the commander a flexible option and a force that

competently functions within the constraints of the force continuum.

## **Crisis Response**

Crisis response may involve peace enforcement and emergency support to civil authorities. The ability of the MAGTF to respond rapidly and appropriately to potential or actual crises contributes to stability. During crisis response operations, military police help plan and execute missions involving civil unrest, law and order operations, and maneuver and mobility support operations.

## **Humanitarian Assistance**

Humanitarian assistance (HA) operations relieve or reduce the results of natural or manmade disasters or other endemic conditions such as disease, hunger, or privation in countries or regions outside the United States. The HA provided by the MAGTF is generally limited in scope and duration and is intended to complement efforts of HN civil authorities or agencies with the primary responsibility for providing assistance. The MP support for HA operations may cover a broad range of missions, to include maneuver and mobility support operations and law and order operations. Military police provide a conduit for the commander to establish crucial lines of communications and liaison with joint, combined, and HN law enforcement agencies conducting HA operations.

## **Peace Operations**

These military operations support diplomatic efforts categorized as peacekeeping operations and peace enforcement operations. Military police aid in the safe and successful resolution of peace operations by providing support in the areas of maneuver and mobility support operations, area security operations, and law and order operations.

## **Noncombatant Evacuation Operations**

These operations are normally conducted to relocate threatened noncombatants from a foreign country. Although principally conducted to evacuate U.S. citizens, noncombatant evacuation operations may also include selective evacuation of citizens from the HN as well as citizens from other countries. Military police support the commander by conducting operations to control civil disturbances, execute

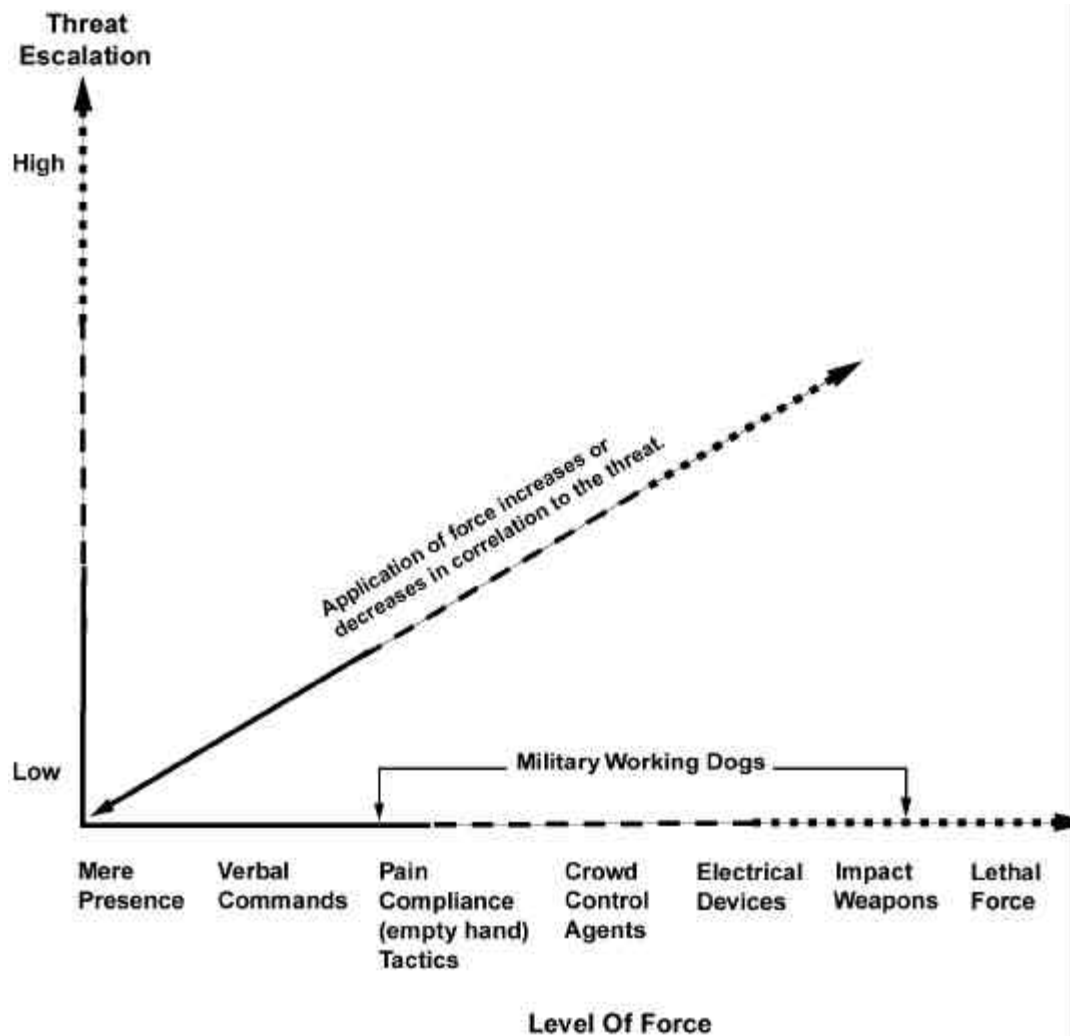


Figure 1-2. Use of Force Continuum.

searches, and provide security with the appropriate level of force.

### Counterdrug Operations

Counterdrug operations support Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in their efforts to disrupt the transfer of illegal drugs into the United States. The MAGTF support may include providing intelligence analysts, logistical support personnel, and support to interdiction. Customs-trained military police and MWD teams are integral parts of the counterdrug operation support effort.

### Disaster Relief and Military Support to Civil Authorities

If permitted by law, these operations provide temporary support to domestic civil authorities when an emergency overtaxes local capabilities. Support to civil authorities can be as diverse as restoration of law and order in the aftermath of riots, protection of life and Federal property, or relief after a natural disaster. Military police were essential to the success of the military support provided to civil authorities in the 1992 disaster relief efforts provided during Hurricanes Andrew in Florida and Iniki in Hawaii and in troop deployment during California civil disturbances.

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## Future Operations

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As the world population grows and migrates to cities and urban areas in the littoral regions, the Marine Corps future will include challenges in homeland defense, peacetime engagement, forward presence, and crisis response. As national boundaries become less distinct, the face of the enemy will become more unconventional and the criminal element will become a greater threat.

Future operations will be characterized by increased interaction between Marines and noncombatants. To keep pace with these challenges, the demand for MP skills will increase. The MP ability to operate across

the force continuum with appropriate restraint and authority will provide the MAGTF commander with a host of capabilities that can contribute to the accomplishment of any mission.

Changes in the operational environment will cause a shift in the current execution methodology that supports future operational concepts. The MP capabilities such as continuing use of emergent technologies in the area of nonlethal controls, physical security, and electronic security systems provide an adaptive force that can keep pace with these changes. In the future, military police will also enhance the MAGTF AT/FP posture while complementing a reduced logistical footprint.